

Attorney Docket No. 12873/04345

Amendment

Serial No. 09/695,612

Page 2

29. An apparatus as set forth in claim 28 wherein said radial compressor comprises five cylinders, five pistons located one in each one of said five cylinders, and five connecting rods, each one of said pistons being connected by a respective one of said connecting rods to said crankshaft.

30. An apparatus as set forth in claim 29 wherein said crankshaft has a single throw, and said connecting rods are connected to and driven by said single throw of said crankshaft, said five pistons reciprocating in one radial plane.

31. An apparatus as set forth in claim 30 wherein said radial compressor compresses said oxygen-enriched gas to a pressure of from about 1,500 psi to about 3,000 psi.

32. An apparatus as set forth in claim 6 wherein said radial compressor comprises:

five cylinders;  
five pistons located one in each one of said five cylinders;  
five connecting rods, each one of said pistons being connected by a respective one of said connecting rods to said crankshaft;  
said crankshaft having a single throw;  
said connecting rods being connected to and driven by said single throw of said crankshaft so that said five pistons reciprocate in one radial plane.

33. An apparatus as set forth in claim 32 wherein said five cylinders are spaced apart in an array about said crankshaft and wherein said five cylinders compress in a sequence such that no two sequentially compressing cylinders are adjacent each other in said array but are separated from each other by either one or two other cylinders.

Attorney Docket No. 12873/04345

Amendment

Serial No. 09/695,612

Page 3

34. An apparatus as set forth in claim 33 wherein said radial compressor compresses said oxygen-enriched gas to a pressure of from about 1,500 psi to about 3,000 psi.

35. A process as set forth in claim 21 wherein said step of compressing said concentrated oxygen sequentially in a plurality of cylinders comprises compressing said concentrated oxygen in a manner such that each said sequential cylinder is located in a non-adjacent position circumferentially about said crankshaft of said compressor.

36. A process as set forth in claim 35 wherein said step of compressing said concentrated oxygen sequentially in a plurality of cylinders comprises compressing said oxygen in five cylinders with five pistons each connected by a respective connecting rod to a crankshaft.

37. A process as set forth in claim 36 wherein said step of compressing said concentrated oxygen sequentially in a plurality of cylinders comprises compressing said oxygen in five cylinders with five pistons each connected by a respective connecting rod to a crankshaft having a single throw.